

NEWARK
PUBLIC
INFORMATION
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For Immediate Release

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Mayor Sharpe James' Statement on Selection of Archbishop
McCarrick to head Washington, D.C. Archdiocese

"Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick has been a steadfast and loyal friend to the City of Newark. Both he and I came to our current positions in 1986 and we both have worked to ensure that municipal government and the Archdiocese of Newark remain strong partners in moving this city forward.

"The Archbishop and the Archdiocese have never abandoned the City, in fact during his tenure, the Archdiocese has redoubled its commitment to Newark, and in doing so, become a major force in this city's revival. As evidence of this commitment, we can look at the magnificent new \$13 million diocesan headquarters adjacent to the Sacred Heart Cathedral Basilica on Clifton Avenue, the extensive St. Lucy's housing, the expansion of St. Michael's Hospital and the building of the Seton Hall Law School, which had an option to move to Roseland, but chose not to. In addition, the Archbishop and the Archdiocese sold the land and old Catholic Community Services building on McCarter Highway to make room for the \$150 million New Jersey Performing Arts Center. Also, minor league baseball and the Newark Bears team are back in Newark playing in our Riverfront Stadium on land that previously belonged to the Archdiocese!

McCarrick ad 1

"And, it was through the efforts of Archbishop McCarrick that his Excellency, the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II came to New Jersey and visited Newark and the Cathedral in 1995. This was a monumental day in the history of this 335-year-old city, and one I will never forget.

"Being chosen to head the Washington archdiocese at such a crucial time in our nation's history is a great honor for Archbishop McCarrick. It is also a great honor for the City of Newark that one of our own, such an esteemed, holy and dedicated individual; someone who has been such an essential part of our city's comeback over the last 14 years, has been tapped for this recognition. On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of Newarkers who love and respect him, I wish the Archbishop Godspeed, a long life and many productive years in continuing his ministry in the Catholic Church and in his efforts to reach the less fortunate among us and around the world."